



Homeless Coordinating Council

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday, April 13th, 2021, 9:45 am-11:00am

Chair, Mayor Tim Keller, City of Albuquerque
Vice-Chair, County Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty, Bernalillo County

City Councilor Pat Davis, City of Albuquerque
City Councilor Isaac Benton, City of Albuquerque
County Commissioner Debbie O'Malley, Bernalillo County
County Manager Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County
President Garnett S. Stokes, The University of New Mexico
Dr. Douglas Ziedonis, The University of New Mexico

Zoom Information:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://cabq.zoom.us/j/91862122122?pwd=dFp0UnhuMExKQnNiRVNlbnZlA4Ry9yQT09>

Passcode: 473061

Minutes

Introductions and Announcements

A. Introductions/Designees

Lawrence Rael, Chief Operations Officer and HCC Designee for Mayor Tim Keller, called the meeting to order at 9:49 a.m. A quorum of members was present.

The following voting members were present: Mayor Timothy M. Keller, Councilor Isaac Benton (CABQ), County Manager Julie Morgas Baca (BernCo), Commissioner Debbie O'Malley (BernCo), President Garnett Stokes (UNM), Enrico Gradi (BernCo, Designee for Commissioner Pyskoty), Dr. Michael Richards (UNM, Designee for Dr. Ziedonis)

Voting Members not present: Councilor Pat Davis, (CABQ), Dr. Douglas Ziedonis (UNM), Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty (BernCo)

Other individuals present (on Zoom) Lawrence Rael (CABQ), Brie Sillery, Carol Pierce (CABQ), Doug Chaplin (CABQ), Isaac Padilla (CABQ), David Parkinson (CABQ), Debra Bazan (CABQ),

Jen Scacco (BernCo), Laura Norman Prescott (CABQ), Lisa Huval (CABQ), Margarita Chavez (BernCo), Peter Rice, Quinn Donnay (CABQ), Glory Juarez (CABQ), Rodney McNease (UNM), Bobby Sisneros (CABQ), Tom Neale (UNM), Ken Martinez (BernCo), Betty Valdez (BernCo), Tina Kachele, Vera, Tamaya Toulouse, Steve Pilon, Shannon Corder, Sara Fitzgerald, Rachel Baca, Peter Kalitsis, Nasha Torrez (UNM), Nancy Zastudil, Michele Benton, Michael Richards (UNM), Melinda Frame, Mary Darling, Marit Tully, Mariah Harrison (CABQ), Kristin Greene, Jessica, Ivan Wiener, Genevieve Romero (BernCo), F. Silva, Doreen McKnight, Del Esparza, Dee Whitfield, David Dixon, Ben Fox, Barbara Peterson (APS), Ariel Franklyn, Alicia Manzano (CABQ), Commissioner Adriann Barboa (BernCo) and Karen Navarro.

B. Agenda

No modifications to the agenda.

Public Comment

A. Please refer to the statement “Special Procedures for the HCC Meeting” posted at <https://www.cabq.gov/family/partner-resources/meeting-minutes-agendas/homeless-coordinating-council>

B. Ten people may sign up on a first come first serve basis will be given 1.5 minutes to present.

Five individuals signed up for public comment:

1. Tamaya Toulouse – Wants to ensure the GMC operations has a true action plan in place, how the facility will be secured, monitored and operated.
2. Del Esparza – On behalf of the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce. Even though there are different opinions on how we address homelessness, that there are two things on which are agreed, one is the community desperately lacks overnight sheltering within the City limits and the other is that we must improve coordination of services and care for those who are homeless. Mr. Esparza said that it is imperative that sheltering and access to assistance and services be co-located, adding that the Gateway Center(s) is a critical first step and GMC is well suited existing facility that allows for this coordination.
3. Sherisse Noelle – Was not present at the meeting.
4. David Dixon – Spoke to encourage attention to the behavioral health needs (for future Gateway residents). Suggested transportation to/from methadone/suboxone clinics, space to offer Alcoholics Anonymous and similar group type meetings, a Chapel for those staying at GMC.
5. Ben Fox – Voiced support for the Gateway site at GMC. Said there is a tremendous need for more shelter space. The GMC can offer centralized services and support for the community which offers tremendous hope to those in need. Our community should feel proud that we are taking steps to protect and offer services to those who need these services.

Approval of March 16th Meeting Minutes

County Manager, Julie Morgas Baca, moved to approve the Minutes and Commissioner O’Malley seconded the motion. There were no objections to the draft minutes and they were approved.

NM Legislative Wrap-up:

Coordination of work together-Julie Morgas Baca,

Isaac Padilla and Barbara Damron

Capital Outlay Funding

Isaac Padilla, the City's Government Affairs Director provided a brief update on HB111 which allows people to stay in their homes during the pandemic was stalled in Senate and never made it to the Senate Floor. Isaac shared that the City got \$1.6M for affordable housing construction, \$3.9M for Gateway Centers and additional \$455,000 for temporary housing facilities.

County Manager Morgas Baca added the HB125 that they were still waiting to see if the Governor signs. This bill modifies licensing requirements for behavioral health practitioners. This will make it easier to attract qualified behavioral health providers. HB285 will allow Emergency Medical Technicians for emergency responders to transport a person to an ER. If she signs, this will help with what we are trying to accomplish.

Isaac Padilla said that they will be making corrections to HB285 and will take it back to the House. HB125 was signed by the Governor.

Updates: GMC

GMC Vision: Health Hub

FCS Director, Carol Pierce provided a GMC update and said that we are really viewing this as a health hub for our Community. With the acquisition of GMC there are existing medical services that are currently at the facility providing vital services to our community, including behavioral health services and every day health services. This is a big health hub where members of our community can go to get services as well as a portion of this site that will be a Gateway Center. This will be one of many Gateway Centers in our community to connect unhoused people to emergency beds and additional services. Some of these services can be provided by the existing providers services at GMC.

Next Steps: GMC

Current Actions

Tenants Connection to Vision

Importance of Access to:

Medical Respite

Behavioral Health Services

Housing

Doug Chaplin, FCS, provided an update on the evaluation and acquiring of GMC which included a brief history of the facility. There is around 572,000 square feet of space at GMC located at 5100 Gibson Blvd. SE on about 24 acres. The initial building was built in the 1950s and with additional buildings added through about 1986. The facility is five stories tall and primarily is occupied on the eastern end of the building. Doug briefly talked about the existing tenants and the services they currently provide. Doug also mentioned that meetings are being scheduled with the tenants to talk about potential collaborations and partnerships within the operations of the Gateway Center at GMC. Doug said there are opportunities to expand behavioral health services including opportunities to create spaces for individual and group services.

Lawrence Rael, COO added there is an architectural firm on board examining the entire building including the areas that are not occupied by tenants to evaluate the space. The firm will evaluate the systems and the layout of the floors in terms of its function and potential uses. Evaluation is conducted to identify spaces and

Commented [PCM1]: Please double check this acreage. I don't know the number but am sure it is not 2000. Thx

opportunities for tenants to offer other supportive services such as medical respite and behavioral health services in partnership with Bernalillo County. Lawrence added there are opportunities to work with the Veterans Hospital to address the needs of veterans without homes. The Veterans Hospital is located to the south side of our boundary of GMC.

Mayor Keller added there is a lot of space at GMC to do a lot of good and that the process will take some time to figure out and digest what is going to happen at the site.

Lawrence Rael added that there is a large commercial kitchen at GMC. This kitchen is significant because it is providing food for the current tenants and there is an obvious potential to provide food for others on site at GMC including Gateway participants.

Bernalillo County Commissioner asked about the timeline for the Gateway Center. Lawrence Rael said they are currently assessing the building and reiterated an appreciation for the size of the building.

Updates:

Community Input Plan

- **Neighborhood Outreach**

Carol Pierce stated neighborhood outreach is important. “Phase 1” was the acquisition of the building and now that full access has been gained to the building, Phase 2 begins with the engagement of the community and continued work with providers. Communication has begun with the five neighborhoods that surround GMC and meetings will be set up to discuss the thinking about GMC and listen to ideas and concerns. There is also a plan underway to reach out to the businesses that are near to GMC so they know a key contact at GMC and how to reach out to have questions answered. We want to establish a good connection now and to create relationships with our surrounding neighbors and businesses. From a timeframe standpoint, April and May is really critical time to begin conversations by attending neighborhood meetings and to do business outreach. This also includes key neighbors such as the Veterans Administration Hospital as well as the schools in the area. It is also important to add that we will continue to build on the expertise of the partners such as Bernalillo County and UNM to provide some of the services. We look forward to building on the expertise of the behavioral health with the County, respite services with UNM and many of our other community partners to get services at the Gateway at GMC.

- **Lived Experience Survey**

Quinn Donnay, FCS Gateway Coordinator said that the lived experience survey is live online and that we have about 45 completed surveys so far and expect more from our partner agencies. This will be integral to shelter design as the survey gathered information about shelter space design and things that are important for the people who will potentially use the space.

County Manager Morgas Baca shared that the County is currently taking inventory of both the internal and external services through the County that could potentially be a good fit to be relocated to add to the services for Gateway Center at GMC. County Manager Morgas Baca also said that the Care Campus is expanding and that this might be a great opportunity to bridge the services and work together.

Updates: UNM Research Interest Institute

Michael Richards, UNM Health and Sciences Center, spoke on behalf of President Garnett Stokes and Dr. Ziedonis. UNM has established multi-disciplinary team called the Homeless Research Taskforce that is meeting weekly. Janet

Page-Reeves is the lead of the group and she's been in close contact with other members of the Health and Sciences Center to help work out the scope of work of the Homeless Research Taskforce. The Taskforce has been collecting data to have the entire process to be data driven. HCC has begun a detailed literature review on best practices to help drive the work of the Research Taskforce.

Carol Pierce added that the COA is excited with the conversations that have been had with UNM because these two research topics were born out of the rich work of the HCC Committees. One topic out of the Housing Committee will be an examination of the different models of housing we need in our community. The second topic from the Services Committee is the neighborhood impacts, as we address the needs of our unhoused neighbors, we want to know more about ways that works with neighborhoods.

Updates: HCC Committees-High Impact Strategies

a. Coordinated Street Outreach

Lisa Huval provided a brief update and started by saying the Committee is now meeting monthly and that Commissioner Barboa is a new Co-Chair from the County side. The committee met last week and the focus of that meeting was using our time to review the City's draft policies related to encampments which is very helpful. This was a little outside of our normal scope of work but it seemed like the right group to provide some feedback on the policies.

b. Youth Housing Continuum

Quinn Donnay provided a brief update and started by saying the Committee is moving along at a good pace and that the youth housing assessment is currently underway. As this is happening, there is a leadership team that is comprised of local service providers as well as CYFD and other providers in the County to help move this along to think about the best way to do this. This also includes a youth count and an organizational assessment in which 10 agencies are participating. The youth count will include a Youth Advisory Board to conduct the count. The Committee is also moving forward to recommend a young adult shelter for those 18-25 years old.

c. Homeless Services System

Quinn Donnay provided a brief update and started by saying that the Committee is trying to nail down a new meeting date because of the timing conflicts with other Committee meetings. In terms of high impact strategies, the Committee is working with the number one high impact strategy which is the need for emergency shelter and all of the recommendations have been given to our architect to look at GMC to figure out how that will work together. The UNM Homeless Research Taskforce is also looking into another one of our high impact strategies around mitigating evaluating neighborhood impact and soon we will start to contact the neighborhood representation that is involved in the Homeless Services System Committee.

Councilor Benton asked if the Services Committee is looking at transportation needs. Quinn Donnay said early on it was discussed very strongly and agreed that a robust transportation system would need to be developed whether its to get people to the shelter and to get them to where they need to go from the shelter. Thinking about how that gets build out will be addressed with regards to GMC and understanding the ingress and egress.

d. Affordable Housing

Lisa Huval provided a brief update and started by saying that the Committee has spent the last few meetings trying to hone in on some specific affordable housing targets, five-year and annual targets within our core of high impact strategy areas such as how many units, what is the goal for the units we want to construct and acquire and rehab. What is the goal for the units we want to preserve over the next five years and how many permanent supportive housing units do we want to develop. The Committee

has also made progress using a kind of matrix to track all that we have established, some sort of draft targets, and now thinking through the cost of what those targets are which will help us determine how ambitious but feasible those targets are. The goal is to bring this to the HCC within the next couple of meetings to share our thinking.

e. Facilities

Carol Pierce provided a brief update and started by saying that there was a very robust meeting on Friday and talked about GMC which is basically the update given at the top of today's meeting. The Committee also talked about north Lomas and potential property acquisition there. The majority of the meeting was spent on the high impact strategy related to sanctioned encampments. The Committee discussed the importance of the language we use to describe this and suggested that the language of safe outdoor spaces is really resonating. Tom Neele, UNM gave a great report from visiting a safe outdoor space in Denver and is sharing that budget as well as some policies and procedures and contracts with the local non-profits.

Summary of Next Steps

Mayor asked that the HCC start to meet monthly on the second Tuesday of every month.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:45 am-11:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05am